

Connecticut Weekly AGRICULTURAL REPORT

Dannel P. Malloy, Governor
Steven K. Reviczky, Commissioner
Steve Jensen, Editor



Connecticut Department of Agriculture
June 30, 2015

AGRICULTURAL OFFICIALS FROM TEN NORTHEAST STATES GATHER IN CONNECTICUT FOR NEASDA ANNUAL MEETING

By Jason Bowsza, Office of Commissioner Steven K. Reviczky

Agriculture Commissioner Steven K. Reviczky earlier this month hosted commissioners and secretaries of agriculture from the ten states that comprise the Northeast Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NEASDA), of which Reviczky is President.

The June 7-10 annual meeting was the first held in state since 2008, attracting participants from Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware.

Based at Yale University in New Haven, the conference focused on key policy issues affecting northeast agriculture including:

- Implementation of the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA)
- The state of the dairy industry economy in the northeast
- Farmland preservation programs administered by state agencies and the USDA
- Adequate funding for extension education programs

Participants also took tours of greenhouse operations in Wallingford, the department's aquaculture headquarters in Milford, tobacco fields and the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station's (CAES) laboratory in Windsor and its headquarters in New Haven.

"State departments of agriculture are at the confluence of agriculture policy development and implementation," Commissioner Reviczky said. "Northeast commissioners and secretaries are focused on growing our agricultural economies while providing balanced regulatory oversight."

Food Safety: The pending implementation of FSMA, passed by Congress in 2010, was among the issues of greatest concern raised at the meeting.

State agriculture departments continue to work through challenges with implementation of the national law. Of particular concern is consistency in jurisdiction and enforcement amongst the states, and the potential of an unfunded mandate being imposed on states through a lack of adequate appropriation provided by Congress.

NEASDA conducted meetings with the U.S. Food & Drug Administration over two years in Connecticut, Vermont, New Jersey and Washington, D.C. and is focused on educating legislators and stakeholders in each of their states about the implications of the law, but it is clear that there is more work to be done.

Dairy: Representatives of Farm Credit East, the National Agriculture Statistics Service and the Northeast Dairy Producers Association joined the group discussing the health of the dairy industry. There is widespread concern about the impact of reductions in what dairy farms are paid for their milk, increased cost of production and uncertainty around the federal milk marketing



WELCOME

TO THE 2015
ANNUAL
MEETING OF



June 7 - 10, 2015

THE STUDY AT YALE
NEW HAVEN, CT

HOSTED BY:



order, and the effectiveness of the new insurance program under the 2014 Farm Bill

Farmland Preservation: States in the northeast have a strong history of farmland protection efforts, but recently the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) has made it difficult for states to partner with the USDA to permanently protect working lands.

States have struggled to recapture federal reimbursements for preservation projects and have voiced frustrations regarding respect for state sovereignty and other issues related to the management of the federal program.

Extension & Research: Members also discussed funding challenges relating to research and technical assistance services in each state through its land grant universities and

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PA LIVESTOCK SUMMARY

Avg. Dressing

SLAUGHTER COWS:	LOW	HIGH
breakers 75-80% lean	102.00	111.50
boners 80-85% lean	100.00	112.00
lean 88-90% lean	93.00	105.00
CALVES graded bull		
No 1 120-128 lbs	485.00	485.00
No 1 110-118 lbs	515.00	540.00
No 1 106-112 lbs	540.00	565.00
No 1 98-100 lbs	572.00	587.00
No 1 90-96 lbs	599.00	620.00
No 2 120-128 lbs	475.00	475.00
No 2 106-118 lbs	517.00	522.00
No 2 98-104 lbs	550.00	570.00
No 2 88-96 lbs	582.00	595.00
No 2 80-86 lbs	640.00	640.00
SLAUGHTER STEERS		
HiCh/Prm 3-4	153.00	158.50
Ch2-3	148.50	154.00
Sel1-3	140.00	149.00
SLAUGHTER HOLSTEINS		
HiCh/Prm 3-4	139.00	145.00
Ch2-3	131.00	140.00
Sel1-2	125.00	135.50
SLAUGHTER HEIFERS		
HiCh/Prm3-4	149.50	154.00
Ch2-3	147.00	153.00
Sel2-3	146.00	149.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA

SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Woolled & Shorn Choice and Prime 2-3		
40-60 lbs	247.00	260.00
50-60 lbs	224.00	246.00
60-80 lbs	220.00	237.00
80-110 lbs	212.00	230.00
110-130 lbs	204.00	218.00
SLAUGHTER EWES: Good 2-3		
110-130 lbs	117.00	117.00
120-160 lbs	90.00	106.00
160-200 lbs	96.00	112.00
BUCKS		
120-300 lbs	80.00	102.00
SLAUGHTER GOATS: Sel.1, by head, est.		
40-60 lbs	152.00	170.00
60-80 lbs	205.00	215.00
80-100 lbs	177.00	190.00
Nannies/Does:		
80-130 lbs	220.00	260.00
130-180 lbs	280.00	295.00
Bucks/Billies:		
80-100 lbs	155.00	215.00
100-150 lbs	245.00	285.00
150-250 lbs	255.00	410.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA. HOG AUCTION

52-56	200-300 lbs	52.00	56.00
48-52	200-300 lbs	48.00	51.00
Sows, US1-3			
	400-500 lbs	25.00	26.00
	500-800 lbs	28.00	31.00
Boars			
	400-700 lbs	n/a	n/a

WHOLESALE FRUITS & VEGETABLESBoston Terminal and Wholesale Grower Prices
NEW ENGLAND GROWN

	LOW	HIGH
ALFALFA SPROUTS, 5 LB	14.00	14.00
BEANS, GRN/WAX, WIRE CRT	32.00	32.00
BEAN SPROUTS, 10 LB	6.00	7.00
BEETS, 12 CT	18.00	18.00
BEET GREENS, 12 LBS	15.00	15.00
CIDER, APPLE, 4 -1 GAL	21.00	21.00
KALE, BUNCHED, 12 CT	13.00	15.00
KALE, PER BUNCH	1.00	1.25
LETTUCE, HYDROPONIC, 12 CT	15.00	15.00
LETTUCE, RED BTTRHD, 24 CT	30.00	30.00
LETTUCE, LF, GRN, RED 8 CT	8.00	8.00
LETTUCE, ROMAINE, 8 CT	8.00	8.00
PEAS, ENGLISH, 1/2 BU	20.00	20.00
PEAS, ENGLISH, BU	60.00	65.00
RADISHES, BUNCHED, 24 CT	18.00	18.00
RASPBERRIES, 12-1/2PTS	28.00	28.00
SPINACH, 23 LBS/BU	26.00	26.00
SQUASH, GRAY, 1/2 BU	15.00	15.00
SQUASH, YELLOW, 1/2 BU	12.00	12.00
SQUASH, GOLDN ZUCH, 1/2 BU	15.00	15.00
SQUASH, ZUCH, 1/2 BU	12.00	12.00
SWISH CHARD, PER BUNCH	1.25	1.25
STRAWBERRIES, 8-1QT	24.00	24.00
TOMATOES, GRHSE, 20 LB	20.00	20.00
TOMATOES, CHERRY, 12-1PT	20.00	20.00

SHIPPED IN

APRICOTS, WA, 2LYR PK, 72	32.00	32.00
BLUEBERRIES, NJ, 12-1 PT/LIDS	12.00	16.00
CANTALOUPE, GA, 9	15.00	16.00
CHERRY, 9.5/RW, WA, 18LB, BGD	50.00	50.00
CORN, BICOLOR, GA, 4 DOZ	12.00	14.00
CUKES, NJ, MED, WX, 1-1/9 BU	26.00	26.00
CUKES, PICKLE, NJ, SM/MED, BU	26.00	30.00
GARLIC, WHITE, CA, 30LB	64.00	68.00
GRAPE, WHT, SDLS, CA, 18LB, #1	32.00	32.00
MUSHROOMS, OYSTER, PA, 3LB	13.00	13.25
MUSHROOMS, SHITAKE, PA, 3LB	11.00	15.00
NECTARINE, CA, 25LB, 54/56	26.00	26.00
ONIONS, YLLW, GA, 16-3LB	20.00	21.00
PARSLEY, PLAIN, NJ, 30 CT	22.00	26.00
PEACHES, GA, 1/2 BU, 2-3/4"	22.00	22.00
PLUMS, BLK, CA, 28LB, 30-35	38.00	42.00
TURNIP, PRPLE TOPS, NJ, 25LB	20.00	20.00
WTRMLN, SDLS, 10-14LB, EA	3.25	3.50

USDA WHOLESALE HERBS

BASIL, NJ, 15	15.00	18.00
CHIVES, NH, 1LB, 12	10.00	12.00
CILANTRO, NJ, 30/CRTN	12.00	14.00
DILL, NJ, 1/2 BRUCE CRT, 24	16.00	18.00
HORSERADISH, MI, 5LBS	13.00	14.00
MINT, NJ, 1/2 BU, 12	12.00	12.00
TARRAGON, FL, 1LB, 12/CRT	10.00	10.00
WATERCRESS, PA, GHSE, 2.2LB	13.00	16.00

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, CT, June 29, 2015

Bob Calves:	LOW	HIGH
45-60 lbs.	85.00	150.00
61-75 lbs.	340.00	350.00
76-90 lbs.	440.00	450.00
91-105 lbs.	480.00	490.00
106 lbs. & up	495.00	500.00
Farm Calves	505.00	520.00
Starter Calves	70.00	75.00
Veal Calves	120.00	360.00
Open Heifers	112.50	205.50
Beef Heifers	141.00	146.00
Feeder Steers	145.00	165.00
Beef Steers	120.00	137.00
Stock Bulls	135.00	155.00
Beef Bulls	135.00	143.00
Replacement Cows	n/a	n/a
Replacement Heifers	n/a	n/a
Boars	n/a	n/a
Sows	28.00	52.50
Butcher Hogs	90.00	105.00
Feeder Pigs	n/a	n/a
Sheep	85.00	140.00
Lambs	85.00	155.00
Goats each	100.00	300.00
Kid Goats	75.00	240.00
Canners	up to	111.00
Cutters	112.00	115.00
Utility Grade Cows	116.00	118.00
Rabbits each	5.00	30.00
Chickens each	3.00	23.00
Ducks each	7.00	38.00

NORTHEAST EGGS/USDAPer doz. Grade A and Grade A white
in cartons to retailers (volume buyers)

XTRA LARGE	1.81	1.99
LARGE	1.75	1.89
MEDIUM	1.45	1.58

NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGSPer doz. Grade A brown in
carton delivered store door. (Range)

XTRA LARGE	2.26	2.35
LARGE	2.23	2.30
MEDIUM	1.80	1.86

PA FEEDER PIG SUMMARY

US #1-2	20-30 lb	100.00	140.00
	30-40 lb	130.00	200.00
	40-50 lb	100.00	160.00
	50-60 lb	100.00	120.00
US #2-3	60-80 lb	100.00	140.00
	15-30 lb	100.00	140.00
	30-40 lb	140.00	160.00
	40-50 lb	110.00	160.00
	75-85 lb	100.00	120.00

**HAY - NEW HOLLAND, PA
PRICE PER SMALL SQUARE**

	PREMIUM	GOOD
MIXED	400.00-455.00	n/a
GRASS	310.00-380.00	250.00-330.00
STRAW	210.00	235.00

FOR SALE

1-R. Blumenthal & Donahue is now Connecticut's first independent NATIONWIDE Agri-Business Insurance Agency. Christmas tree growers, beekeepers, sheep breeders, organic farmers and all others, call us for all your insurance needs. 800-554-8049 or www.bludon.com

2-R. Farm, homeowner and commercial insurance—we do it all. Call Blumenthal & Donahue 800-554-8049 or www.bludon.com

3-R. Gallagher electric fencing for farms, horses, deer control, gardens, & beehives. Sonpal's Power Fence 860-491-2290.

4-R. Packaging for egg sales. New egg cartons, flats, egg cases, 30 doz and 15 doz. Polinsky Farm 860-376-2227.

5-R. Nationwide Agribusiness Insurance Program, endorsed by the CT Farm Bureau, save up to 23% on your farm insurance and get better protection. References available from satisfied farmers. Call Marci today at 203-444-6553.

8-R. CT non-GMO grain and corn. Hay and straw. Pleasant View Farms. Louis. 860-803-0675.

53-R. There's still time to buy a Classic...but not much. New federal EPA-NSPS rules will soon eliminate your choice to buy a new Classic. Now is the best time to buy a new Classic. 203-263-2123 www.mywoodfurnace.com

62-R. Kubota L3010 w/LA 481 front loader weight box 5 ft brush hog. 300 hours. \$16,500.00. 860-205-3399.

63-R. 2 horse sleigh. \$2,000.00 or Best Offer. JX 1075C 4WD, cab, air, 365 hours. \$33,000.00. JD 4600 4x4 with loader. \$14,000.00. JD 4400, cab, 4x4, snow plow, mower deck. \$9,200.00. Kubota 175 with mower deck. \$3,200.00. JD 2320, 4x4 with loader. \$13,500.00. 203-530-4953.

64-R. 2 Christmas tree grass mowers in excellent condition. 1 Roof Mower. \$750.00 or B.O. 1 Batchelder mower. \$950.00 or B.O. Call 860-930-4689.

65-R. For Sale: Parts for Grimm hay tedders. Also, rough lumber. 860-684-3458.

66. For Sale: 50 acres restricted farmland. 25 open, 25 woods. 203-264-1185.

67-R. 5HP water pumps for farm/nursery irrigation. 230 volt 80 GPM. Both pumps for \$1,100.00 or B.O. 203-482-3816 nick@sambridge.com

68-R. Barn doors. 9'X9'. One with 3 small windows. Solid wood. \$600.00 for the pair. 860-481-0029.

MISCELLANEOUS

6-R. Farm/Land specializing in land, farms, and all types of Real Estate. Established Broker with a lifetime of agricultural experience and 40 years of finance. Representing both Buyers and Sellers. Call Clint Charter of Wallace-Tustin Realty (860) 644-5667.

41-R. Bulldozing in Eastern Connecticut. Large farm ponds dug. Land clearing for farmers also a specialty. Work done with rootrake to preserve topsoil and remove rocks. Personal service. Will help with permits. Don Kemp 860-546-9500.

**BREWERY EVENT TO BENEFIT
CT AG EDUCATION FOUNDATION**

The CT Agricultural Education Foundation will hold a fundraiser on Friday, July 10 from 6-8 p.m. at the Hooker Brewery, 16 Tobey Road, Bloomfield.

The event will feature free tours and beer samples, food and a silent auction. Tickets are \$20 and can be reserved by calling 860-741-4376 ext. 8165, by visiting CTAEF.org or with cash or check at the door.

Funds raised will be contributed to CT Agricultural Education Foundation programs throughout the year, including Ag in the Classroom activities, as well as its annual scholarship fund and Farm City events.

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extension.

Lack of congressional support has resulted in some state departments of agriculture being asked by land grant universities to fund extension programs and services as a means of shifting expenses to state governments.

In addition to these in-depth policy discussions, members had an opportunity to hear from Canadian Consul Vikkas Shamra about trade opportunities and relations between the United States and Canada, which is the primary trading partner for agriculture commodities in the northeast.

That topic also tied in with a meeting of Food Export Northeast, a regional trade group that partners with NEASDA to expand trade opportunities for regionally grown crops and products into an international market.

Agricultural tours during the conference included a behind-the-scenes tour of Geremia Greenhouse operations in Wallingford, where Joe Geremia graciously reviewed his state-of-the-art production facilities, bio-mass heating plant and business philosophy.

Conference participants ventured north into the Connecticut River Valley to see a field demonstration of tobacco growing practices and research opportunities being done at the CAES Valley Laboratory in Windsor.

The group heard from Dr. Jim Lamondia of CAES and from Enfield tobacco farmer Steve Jarmoc. An associated visit to active tobacco farms in the surrounding soil-rich valley was of particular interest, as tobacco is rarely grown in other parts of the northeast.

The trip into the Greater Hartford area culminated in a Connecticut Grown farm-to-table dinner at Rose's Berry Farm in Glastonbury catered by Plan B Burger Bar in West Hartford.

The picturesque venue and locally-grown dinner hosted by Sandi Rose and Mark Sanderson was a wonderful capstone to a full and productive day.

At a visit to the agricultural experiment station's New Haven headquarters, director Dr. Ted Andreadis gave an overview of the agency's history and function.

Guests also had the opportunity to meet with scientists working on issues such as fire blight and pollinator health, and tour the station's newly-renovated Jenkins-Waggoner Laboratory.

A hands-on look at Connecticut's aquaculture industry was explored during a tour of the agriculture department's Bureau of Aquaculture lab facility on Long Island Sound in Milford.

Bureau scientists outlined the extensive efforts the department is making to protect public health through food safety measures that slows growth of dangerous *Vibrio* bacteria now present in the Sound that led to an outbreak of many human illnesses in 2013.

Gary Salce of G & B Shellfish in Stratford gave the group an opportunity to board his boat and hear about his experiences in the shellfishing industry over time.

Presentations highlighting federal programs that affect agriculture in the northeast region were made by Sarah Scanlon from the office of USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack, as well as numerous USDA agencies, including:

- Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)
- Agriculture Marketing Service (AMS)
- Farm Service Agency (FSA)
- Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)
- Rural Development (RD)
- Risk Management Agency (RMA)
- National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS)

On the conference's final day, members elected NEASDA leadership for the coming year, with new terms commencing in September.

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Commissioner Reviczky extends congratulations to the incoming NEASDA President, Commissioner Walt Whitcomb of Maine; Vice President Richard Ball, Commissioner of New York, and Secretary/Treasurer Ken Ayers, Chief of Rhode Island.

New Jersey's Secretary, Doug Fisher, will serve as a regional representative on the NASDA Board of Directors.

While Commissioner Reviczky will transition out of his role as president of NEASDA later this year, he is in line to become President of the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture in 2017-2018.

He currently serves as Secretary/Treasurer, and will become Second Vice-President in September.

Reviczky's term as national leader – a first for Connecticut – will coincide with the next federal Farm Bill being written, giving Connecticut agriculture a strong voice as this important legislation is crafted.



The annual meeting of the Northeast Association of State Departments of Agriculture included (clockwise from top left) a tour of Joe Geremia's greenhouse operation in Wallingford; the boarding of Gary Salce's shellfishing boat moored at the agriculture department's aquaculture laboratory in Milford, and a demonstration of tobacco cultivation at the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station's Valley Laboratory in Windsor, where officials including Agriculture Commissioner and NEASDA President Steven K. Reviczky (seen at far right) listened to a presentation by the experiment station's Dr. Jim Lamondia.

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